

Friday Night Fax

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps Programs and Community Service Partners

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Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism

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Unified State Plan Update

The ICCSV is in the process of working with statewide organizations to create Unified State Plan work groups. These organizations will: **refine** the objectives related to the Plan's specific categories, develop a set of performance measurements around these goals, including baseline data, and be a resource to local communities. As the ICCSV prepares to host seven (7) regional summits later this year, the Commission is looking for organizations to host these events in the following cities: Evansville, Fort Wayne, New Albany, Richmond, South Bend, Terre Haute, and West Lafayette. If your organization is interested, please contact: Mr. Carey Craig, senior program officer, at (317) 233-0901, or by e-mail at ccraig@dwd.state.in.us.

CNCS Lifts Pause on AmeriCorps Enrollment

On March 3, 2003, the director of AmeriCorps, Rosie Mauk, issued a letter to inform state commissions that the CNCS was gradually lifting an almost four month pause on AmeriCorps enrollment. It is estimated that between 20,000 and 25,000 slots remain unfilled as a result of the pause. The ICCSV is working with AmeriCorps programs throughout the state to enroll the necessary number of Members in order to fulfill program objectives and meet community needs. The ICCSV has asked AmeriCorps programs to move cautiously when recruiting and enrolling new Members as programs will lose slots vacated by a Member. The pause on enrollment, which began on November 15, 2002, provided the Corporation with an opportunity to obtain an accurate count of enrolled and committed program slots. This was the first time in the history of the CNCS that state commissions and programs were asked to stop enrolling new AmeriCorps Members.

Additional Federal Appropriations for CNCS?

The Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) is working with the Congress to have \$64 million restored to its 2003 National Trust budget. The Corporation is hoping the final version of the Supplemental Appropriations bill will contain the requested funds and a provision allowing the Chief Executive Officer to transfer \$50 million in excess program funds to the National Service Trust, the entity responsible for Member education awards. Despite efforts by President Bush and Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Mitch Daniels to restore the funding, the House approved bill did not contain any new funds for the Trust. The latest news from Washington is that Massachusetts Senator Ted Kennedy will offer an amendment on the Corporation's behalf. The \$64 million shortfall is the result of a rule prohibiting government Trusts from earning and using interest. An OMB ruling this year, required the Corporation to repay the amount the Trust earned through interest payments.

Colloquium on Civic Engagement

Indiana Campus Compact is sponsoring a Colloquium on Civic Engagement: Building and Strengthening Campus-Community Partnerships on April 24-25 in Indianapolis. The event will feature Barbara Jacoby, author of *Service Learning in Higher Education* and *Building Partnerships for Service-Learning*. The event will also include presentation of the 2003 Brian Douglas Hiltunen Faculty Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Scholarship of Engagement, an ICC Founder's Forum, and a community partner workshop. Registration is discounted for members of community organizations working with or hoping to work with colleges and universities. Full information and registration are online at www.indianacampuscompact.org. The registration deadline is April 17.

2003 Indiana Achievement Awards Program: "Celebrating Effective Nonprofits"

The 4th Annual Indiana Achievement Awards (IAA) Program celebrated the work of nonprofit organizations and their impact on Hoosier communities. This year's program will occur on **May 29, 2003** at the **Westin Hotel in Indianapolis**. Activities include: IAA Luncheon, Best Practices Seminar, and Unsung Heroes Reception. A coalition of Indiana foundations, educational centers, businesses, *Indianapolis Business Journal*, and WISH-TV Channel 8 are program partners. Registration begins at **10:30 a.m.** and the day concludes at **6:30 p.m.** There is a **\$75 registration fee. Deadline is May 23**. For more information, please contact Amandula Henry (ahenry@saveitnow.com) at (317) 208-4845, or visit The Sycamore Foundation's Web site at www.sycamorefoundation.org.

The Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism challenges the people of Indiana to strengthen their communities through service and volunteerism. We identify and mobilize resources, promote an ethic of service, and develop in communities the capacity to solve problems and improve the quality of life for all individuals and families.

Plans for the 2003 Summer Retreat

The Planning Committee for the 2003 Summer Event continues to make great progress toward coordinating an exciting event for all national service participants and friends from across the State of Indiana! The **Summer Event will be held at the Downtown Westin in Indianapolis on Wednesday, June 25th through the afternoon of Friday, June 27th**. AmeriCorps State and VISTA members will join the group from Wednesday at noon and depart at 3:00 p.m. on the second day – keep this in mind when sharing the details with members! The planning committee will talk once again next week about training workshops, needs assessments, and a theme for the event. In the meantime, encourage members to get on line and visit the ICCSV website at www.IN.gov/iccsv and complete the needs assessment! **We need to hear from everyone early next week!** Also, there is a great opportunity to participate in a writing/reflection contest – look for more information via the ICCSV website in the next couple of weeks!

Technical Assistance Workshops for Faith-Based and Community-Based Organizations FaithWorks Indiana will be hosting workshops across the State of Indiana that focus on how to assess an organization's role in government-funded services and how to seek out partnerships with government. Registration and a list of dates for these regional workshops is available via the FaithWorks website at www.IN.gov/faithworks. This is a great opportunity to network with faith-based and community-based organizations in your community!

Citizen Corps Internship Opportunity

The Citizen Corps Council for the State of Indiana is currently seeking highly motivated individuals with an interest in community building, homeland security and disaster preparedness, civic engagement, and/or civil society to assist in the promotion and expansion local Citizen Corps Councils throughout the State of Indiana. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to: marketing initiative to local communities, educating citizens and local communities about the importance of safe and healthy communities and preparing for emergencies and disasters, communicating with locally elected public officials and community leaders, working with local and statewide service partners in government, business, community- and faith-based organizations. Preference will be given to individuals that demonstrate good communication (verbal and written) skills, computer/program literacy, energy, and professionalism. Approximately 10 - 20 hours per week is required. For more information, please contact Brandy Wood, ICCSV program officer at (317) 232-2504 or bwood@dwd.state.in.us.

Tip of the Month

For more than 35 years, AmeriCorps*VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America) members have been helping bring individuals and communities out of poverty. Members serve full-time for a year in nonprofits, public agencies and faithbased groups throughout the country, working to fight illiteracy, improve health services, create businesses, increase housing opportunities, or bridge the digital divide. For more information, please visit the Corporation Web site at www.americorps.org/vista.

Keep in Touch!

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Important Deadlines and Upcoming Events

ICCSV Board Meeting	April 10, 2003
Join Hands Day	June 21, 2003
AmeriCorps Summer Celebration	June 25-27, 2003

Available Now! Indiana Volunteers License Plates (for front of vehicle) are available for purchase. For more information, please contact Brandy Wood at the ICCSV at iccsv@state.in.us.

The *Friday Night Fax* is a periodic publication of the Indiana Commission on Community Service and Volunteerism (ICCSV). To be added or removed from the distribution list, please contact the ICCSV via electronic mail at iccsv@state.in.us.